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## O'RYAN THINKS CRAIG FOE OF SINGLE FARE

Says Comptroller Misrepresented Commission's Plan in West End Speech.

### SEEKS TRANSIT UNITY

Universal Transfers Again Thought to Be Practicable With Reorganization.

### WASTE IN OLD SYSTEM

City's Scheme Attacked as Adding Extra Fare Units to Present Lines.

Gen. John F. O'Ryan, speaking for the Transit Commission yesterday, said that Comptroller Craig in his address, as reported before the West End Association on Monday evening, had misrepresented the plan of the commission. Mr. O'Ryan explained: "Mr. Craig is quoted as saying, 'The main objection to the Transit Commission plan is that it simply hooks up the present subway lines with the proposed new lines and makes it necessary for the same companies that control the present lines to continue their control over the new lines.' " "Hooking up the proposed new lines with existing lines was not for the purpose of turning them over to the existing corporations for their benefit, but in order that the new lines might physically be a part of a unified, city-wide system, which we propose shall be taken over in its entirety for the benefit of the people of the city.

"What the city authorities apparently propose is the piecemeal acquisition of parts only of the existing rapid transit lines and their municipal operation. This in itself would insure double fares.

### "Unified System Needed."

"What is needed is a unified, city-wide system, including all facilities essential for the convenience of the public, not operated for gain by private corporations, as has been the case up to the present time, nor yet by the municipal authorities with political control of the system, but rather by expert management under the supervision of a public board of control, one-half of whom would represent the public and the other half those whose property had been acquired to constitute the unified system.

"Universal transfers over a system thus unified would then be entirely practicable. That our plan provides for. We would thus have municipal ownership and control without the abuses of political operation, and expert operation without the opportunities for abuse offered by private operation for gain.

"Mr. Craig says the purpose of the Transit Commission in formulating its plan was to raise fares. We believe that only through the essentials of the commission's plan can a real five cent fare, coupled with adequate service, be gained by the people.

### "Too Many Companies."

"At present transit in this city is provided by approximately forty companies, each with its own overhead and other personnel, and all operating primarily for gain. The waste of all this must be obvious. The lack of operating elasticity is evident. It all spells ineffective effort toward real service. Only secondary are the corporations interested in

## SWEET TOOTHED BEAR DIES HERO OF STORM AT SEA

Ship's Mascot, Which Often Ate Brooklyn Children's Candy, Swept Overboard After Arousing Crew of Vessel.

Bears are not supposed to be especially intelligent, but if any one be looking for a real argument let him visit the freighter Ponce, anchored until yesterday in Newark Bay, and tell the crew that bears do not think. Nigger, who was born a bear, lived a bear and died a hero. Nigger was the mascot of the Ponce for many years. He made trip after trip on the ship. When she tied up in the Brooklyn docks and in Newark he used to amble around the pier and eat candy that children gave him. But Nigger is dead now. The crew of the Ponce will miss him, because on the last trip from the tropics Nigger probably saved their lives and the vessel from destruction. The Ponce was moving fast along the Florida coast when she was struck broadside on by a sudden Gulf storm. The watch was two men. One was at the wheel. The other was knocked

giving the kind of service the public have a right to demand.

"Our unanimous conclusion was and is that a system of transportation in New York city in the hands of private corporations, operating primarily for gain, is not in the interest of the public. But we do not believe that municipal political operation is the remedy, even if it could be put into effect. The real solution lies in the adoption of the commission's plan."

### FOUR CAUGHT IN CRASH OLD HOTEL BUILDING

Smith & McNeill Structure Collapses—One Killed.

The five story brick building at 195 Washington street, which was once the famous Smith and McNeill Hotel, collapsed without warning yesterday, burying in the debris four men who were piling sacks of onions on the fourth floor. One of them, Solly Miller, of 466 East 171st street, was killed. Three others were dug from the ruins and taken to the Broad Street Hospital in a critical condition. They are Thomas Sawyer, of 69 Seventh avenue, Eugene Murphy, address unknown, and William Perlman of 293 Georgia avenue, Brooklyn.

Sawyer's skull is fractured and it was said at the hospital that he could not recover. Perlman's ribs were crushed and his spine injured and Midler also was badly crushed. Two other workmen, James Scott, of 209 East 100th street and Benjamin Blake of 242 West 124th street, both negroes, escaped injury. Traffic was tied up in Washington street for an hour by curiosity seekers who flocked to the scene and police reserves were called from the Beach street and Old Slip stations.

The first floor of the building is occupied by the Interborough Transfer Company and everything above it was involved in the wreck. S. D. Woodruff & sons, vegetable dealers, utilized the three upper floors and the injured men were employed by them. All were unconscious when firemen reached them after digging through piles of debris and vegetables.

Frederick Kuehnle, chief inspector of the Building Department, said that no arrests would be made pending an investigation. The vegetables stored in the building will be weighed to determine whether the building laws restricting weights have been violated. The building is eighty years old.

### R. WANAMAKER OUT SOON.

Cold Contracted in Paris Is Not Serious.

Rodman Wanamaker is not so ill as first reported. At his home, 12 Washington Square North, yesterday Mr. Wanamaker's secretary said that his employer had contracted a cold while in Paris and that his doctors had advised complete rest for a few days. "Mr. Wanamaker is in no danger," said the secretary, "and will be out and back at work in a few days."

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